(b) if so, what are the reasons for the delay in appointing a Chairman to head STC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) During the last two years, there has been a regular/part-time Chairman of STC. Recently, Public Enterprises Selection Board has recommended a panel of names for the post of Chairman, STC. The recommendations of the Board are being processed to make appointment of Chairman, STC on regular basis, as early as possible.

Increase in non-plan and non-developmental Expenditure

185. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage rise in the expenditure on administration and on non-plan and non-developmental programmes during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) what precise measures have been taken by Government so far to curtail the expenditure and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) The percentage rise in the expenditure on administration and non-plan and non-developmental programmes during last three years are as under:

Percentage increase over previous year

Year	Administrative Expenditure	Non-plan Expenditure	Non-developmental Expenditure
1985-86	16	18	26
1986-87	17	20	27
1987-88 (RE) . . .	18	16	19

(b) Government are continuously making efforts to reduce administrative, non-plan and non-developmental expenditure to the barest minimum. A number of measures have also been taken to bring about reduction in the expenditure. These include curbs on travel expenses, entertainment, in essential seminars, conferences, publications, purchase of furniture/furnishings, fuel consumption etc Further to bring about a prioritisation of Government expenditure so that scarce resources can be applied more effectively on expenditure of higher priority items, Ministries and Departments of Government have been instructed to review all their programmes adopting the Zero base budgeting techniques. The results of all these will be known over a period of years.

Import of dry fruits

186. SHRI K. MOHANAN:
SHRI M. A. BABY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to change the existing policy regarding issue of import licences for the import of dry fruits to break the monopoly in the trade; and